UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Distributed on request
DP/PROJECTS/7305

ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP/UNCDF ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF CAMBODIA

IPF:(1992-96) $ 81 629 000

(CMB/92/C01) and (CMB/92/015) - Rehabilitation of Essential Public Services in Pursat and Siem Reap

Date of approval by the AC:[1/]	10 June 1992
Expected duration:	Two years
Proposed executing agency:	UNDP/OPS
Government implementing agency:	Supreme National Council of Cambodia (SNC)
Proposed UNCDF contribution:	$3 121 000
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$ 450 000
Total UNDP budget:	$3 571 000

Project background

Within the framework of the National Reconciliation Process in Cambodia, the Paris Agreement calls for the repatriation of some 360,000 Cambodian refugees from the border camps in Thailand, within nine months beginning April 1992, in time to register and vote in the forthcoming April 1993 Constituent Assembly elections. The repatriation of the refugees is an integral part of the comprehensive political settlement. Furthermore, approximately 190,000 internally-displaced persons and 200,000 demobilized soldiers are expected also to be resettled.

While it is planned that the majority of the above-mentioned groups will resettle in the rural areas of the four north-western provinces (Pursat, Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, and Siem Reap), it is expected, however, that a substantial number of them will subsequently migrate to the urban centers of these four provinces or to the capital city, Phnom Penh. This migration will inevitably overburden the already meagre and war-torn basic infrastructure and public utilities of these urban centres. Among the principal reasons for this anticipated secondary migration movement, four are worth mentioning. They include: (i) lack of immediate access to potable water, health care, and education services in the intended resettlement areas; (ii) limited farming experience of the refugees who have been accustomed for the past 13 years to an urban environment in the camps; (iii) lack of sufficient and immediately accessible arable land which is free of mines; and (iv) lack of an economic base in the resettlement areas to provide either adequate employment or sufficient subsistence for these new settlers.

To underscore the effects this migration could have on the urban centers, and ultimately on the electoral process itself, the Secretary General in his recent appeal for international contributions for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia has called for plans to strengthen the essential services such as health, water, education services and shelter provision in the urban and peri-urban centers in order to meet these anticipated needs. To this end UNDP assistance was requested under the present approval.

[1/] **This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.**

Description of project

The overall objective of the project is to rehabilitate the basic public services in the two provincial capitals of Pursat and Siem Reap in the northwest of Cambodia in order to improve the living conditions of the present residents, increase the capacity of these provincial towns to accommodate and integrate new settlers, and prevent the potentially imbalanced concentration of displaced persons in the capital city of Phnom Penh.

The project consists of five components, representing each a series of small-scale realizations, most of which are to be subcontracted to local enterprises and NGOs. Most of the project components are strictly limited to the rehabilitation of existing infrastructure and can therefore be undertaken without any prerequisite technical studies. With a view to coordinate with the tight repatriation schedule, the project will use the structure of the Provincial Support Units (PSU) which are being established by UNDP/OPS.

Project activities to be undertaken under each sector will include: (i) Health Care: this consists of the rehabilitation and construction of additional facilities in the two provincial hospitals to serve a growing number of patients in the areas of internal medicine and infectious diseases, particularly tuberculosis; other construction involves hospital sanitation facilities, a maternity ward, a pediatrics center, a hospital unit for the preparation of intravenous fluid against diarrheal diseases, and related radiology and emergency equipment and vehicles. This component will be subcontracted to Medecins Sans Frontiéres (Belgium-Netherlands). (ii) Water Supply: this component aims at overhauling the water supply system in Pursat and Siem Reap and will rehabilitate or replace where needed water pumps, generators, treatment plants, water tanks, and distribution networks. It will extend also the existing distribution network and provide for the installation of water meters to assist the provinces to better recover the cost of its services. (iii) Electricity Supply: this includes the provision of new transformers, low and medium tension lines and meters. (iv) Housing: this consists of the provision of a fully developed site on 50 hectares for the settlement of some 1,000 low-income families in the peri-urban area of Pursat. This site-and-services component is expected to include access roads and streets, drainage, water supply, primary schools and local market. (v) Credit: the project will initiate a small credit component on an experimental basis. This component will be subcontracted to CARE.

Inputs

UNCDF will cover the cost of physical works performed by subcontractors under local and regional competitive bidding; a credit fund, and short-term advisory and monitoring missions. UNDP will finance one expert for two years with expertise in civil engineering; two UNVs civil engineers; two vehicles; and related operating costs.

Financial data

$

	UNCDF	UNDP
Mission	60 000	40 000
Personnel	-	320 000
Subcontracts	2 400 000	-
Transport equipment	-	40 000
Credit fund	50 000	-
Contingencies	360 000	-
Operating costs		50 000
Support costs	251 000	
Total	3 121 000	450 000

- - - - -